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# VEGETABLE Situation





# VEGETABLE SITUATION

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Principal contributor  
Charles W. Porter

Economic and Statistical Analysis Division

Economic Research Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C. 20250

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## SUMMARY

Fresh vegetable supplies this spring will be moderately smaller than a year ago, with a 3-4 percent cut in production prospects for 15 crops. There are also fewer processed vegetables on hand. Old crop potato supplies are large and prices are low; new crop spring supplies appear to be moderate. Stocks of dry beans are relatively small, and grower prices are strong.

Frost damaged *fresh vegetable* crops in Florida again this winter. Brief cold spells in late January and in February and March damaged tender crops, reducing and delaying harvests of sweet corn, peppers, and tomatoes. Cold weather also hit the West Coast. A January cold wave checked normal growth of the lettuce crop in both California and Arizona. This cold reached into Mexico, and was partly responsible for reducing tomato imports.

Vegetable prices advanced sharply during February and March, with March prices to growers record high. Prices have declined some in recent weeks and they will decline further as supplies increase seasonally.

Moderately lower cantaloup production, based on first acreage indications, is likely in 1971. Seasonally increasing imports will augment domestic supplies during May. Spring watermelon acreage is down slightly, but for the important early summer crop, prospective acreage is moderately larger.

*Processed vegetable* supplies are well below the high levels of the previous 2 seasons, and wholesale prices of most major items have increased significantly in the past year. Demand for processed vegetables remains strong, the rate of disappearance remains brisk, and total canned vegetable stocks at the end of the 1970/71 season will decrease once again. Stocks of frozen vegetables on April 1 were 15 percent less than on the same date a year earlier.

Processing vegetable growers this year plan 3 percent larger acreage for 8 major vegetables. These intentions suggest slightly larger packs of canned vegetables and materially larger frozen packs. If this is the case, the total supply of canned vegetables in 1971/72 will be about the same as in the current season, and the supply of frozen vegetables probably would be slightly larger.

*Potato* supplies are large. Disposition of the record 1970 fall crop has been heavy, with processing use largely responsible for the gain. Combined supplies of early spring and late spring crops are not expected to be greatly different than last year. Stocks of frozen potato products have increased substantially, with most of the increase in the Pacific Northwest. In the important late summer and fall states, growers intend to plant a slightly larger acreage in 1971. Normal yields on this intended acreage would result in a crop only slightly below last year, and would likely mean another season of low potato prices.



The 1971 prospective *sweetpotato* acreage is the smallest on record. Average prices for the 1970 crop were higher than a year earlier, but the long-time decline in demand, and the scarcity of labor in several producing areas, discouraged increased acreage.

Adverse growing weather cut the 1970 *dry bean* crop, lowering the supplies in the current marketing season. As

a result, growers have seen unusually strong bean prices in recent months. The \$10.20 per hundredweight U.S. average farm price was the highest for March since the late 1940's, and up sharply from September 1970. Despite the current favorable farm price, growers intend to plant 4 percent less acreage in 1971. But should yields be about average, production would be slightly larger than 1970.

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND OUTLOOK

### FRESH VEGETABLES

#### Moderately Smaller Supplies

Vegetable supplies this spring will probably be moderately less than a year ago. Production of 15 vegetables which account for more than three-fourths of the early spring and spring crops will total 3-4 percent less than a year ago. Early spring vegetable production is down 8 percent, due mainly to a substantially smaller lettuce crop. A few spring vegetables, especially celery, are up.

Frost damage to winter and early spring vegetables in Florida has reduced and delayed supplies of several crops. The first severe frost came late in January, and brief cold spells in both February and March checked the development of tender crops—sweet corn, peppers, cucumbers, and tomatoes. On the West Coast a cold wave checked lettuce growth and reduced the rate of shipping from Arizona and California; this same cold reached into west Mexico and curtailed tomato shipments to the United States after mid-January.

Vegetable prices fluctuated widely this winter. December and January prices were well below those of a year earlier. February prices were down only slightly as supplies tightened. But in March, the combination of a lull in lettuce shipments from California and Arizona, plus reduced supplies of several Florida vegetables pushed March prices to record highs. Price declines are expected as supplies increase seasonally this spring and summer.

Cantaloup plantings are estimated to be less this year due to a sharp cut in Texas spring acreage. A slight

reduction is expected in Florida's late spring watermelon acreage, but prospective summer acreage is up.

#### Prospects for Major Fresh Vegetables

**Tomatoes**—Winter tomato production in Florida was a fourth larger than the very short crop of 1970, because of favorable yields and substantial harvest prior to the late January freeze. Following this freeze, shipments from Mexico increased, though not to the same extent as in 1970. Through mid-April Mexican imports were about 20 percent less than a year earlier. Cumulative shipments from Florida and Mexico combined were 4 percent less than a year earlier. As a result of these developments, domestic tomato prices the first half of March averaged a record 23 cents per pound to the grower.

Domestic supplies of early spring tomatoes may stay about the same as in 1970. Florida volume is expected to be slightly larger even though acreage for harvest is down sharply. Texas and California both grow limited acreages which are expected to provide smaller crops this season. Market volume of tomatoes will increase seasonally during May, with prices probably moving downward.

**Carrots**—The supply of winter carrots is moderately less than a year earlier with production reduced in both California and Texas. Recent shipments have been running toward the smaller sizes, and prices have shown substantial strength since February.

**Cabbage**—The winter crops of cabbage in both Florida and Texas were materially larger than a year

Table 1.—Major Sources of U.S. Winter Tomato Supplies

Season Oct. thru. Apr.	Florida	Mexico	Total	Mexico as per- cent of total
	<i>Thousand carlots</i>	<i>Thousand carlots</i>	<i>Thousand carlots</i>	<i>Percent</i>
1965/66 .....	13.7	7.8	21.5	36
1966/67 .....	14.0	8.2	22.2	37
1967/68 .....	13.4	7.2	20.6	35
1968/69 .....	11.2	9.8	21.0	47
1969/70 (mid April) ..	6.7	12.8	19.5	66
1970/71 (mid April) ..	8.6	10.1	18.7	54

<sup>1</sup> Estimated from border crossings, excluding quantities shipped to Canada.

Fruit and Vegetable Division - C&MS - USDA.



earlier, and total production of 7.8 million hundredweight was the largest winter crop since the middle 1940's. Prices have been sharply lower than the unusually high prices prevailing a year earlier. These lower prices have resulted from heavy stocks of the stored fall crop and the larger winter output. Florida f.o.b. prices in March and early April were down more than a dollar per crate from 1970, but well within the range of other recent years. New York storage prices in the same weeks were about the lowest in several years. By mid-April these prices had improved moderately, as shipping volume from other States developed more slowly than usual.

Growers of early-spring cabbage probably will bring in moderately smaller crops this year, as the long-term trend to smaller acreage and production continues within this particular seasonal group. Late spring cabbage acreage is up moderately, despite the long-time downward trend also evident for this group of States.

Early summer cabbage acreage, largely in New Jersey and Ohio, is down moderately this season, but larger late summer acreage will be more than offsetting.

**Lettuce**—Supplies from California and Arizona are expected to be substantially smaller this spring. These are the two most important States in the spring harvest season. Both cut acreage back substantially, and even though yields are relatively high, production is down 17 percent, and the smallest since 1965.

Prices since January 1 have been generally above the low prices of the previous season. However, they have been erratic due to cold weather checking the normal development of the crop, and also because some regions did not mesh production volume in the usual pattern. Yuma, Ariz., shipments finished about mid-April while central Arizona reached substantial volume early in the month. The Palo Verde area of California shipped heavy volume late in March and early April, but was replaced later in the month by shipments from Santa Maria, San Luis Obispo, and Kern County areas. The important Salinas Valley began light harvest in mid-April. With much smaller supplies expected this spring, lettuce prices should hold above a year earlier.

**Celery**—Winter celery production has been substantially larger than either of the past 2 seasons, and prices have been much below a year earlier. Spring shipments may continue fairly heavy until the seasonal decline in Florida late in May.

The winter crop in California and Florida was an eighth larger than a year ago, and their spring crop may increase a sixth.

**Sweet Corn**—Both Florida winter and spring sweet corn crops have been plagued by cold weather, and harvests have been reduced and delayed. Even with these adverse conditions, the Florida winter crop was substantially larger than the cold-damaged 1970 crop. Much this year was harvested before the cold weather came. The early spring crop in Florida has been delayed by cold snaps, and as a result recent shipments have been relatively light, and grower prices have been holding near

record highs. Volume is expected to build up rapidly in May. By mid-May, prices are expected to decline.

**Snap Beans**—Florida early spring harvest peaked in April, with production slightly less than a year earlier. However, cumulative shipments the past 2 years have run substantially below corresponding periods of the late 1960's, suggesting that canned and frozen products have cut substantially into the market for fresh beans.

Acreage of the mid spring crop, mostly from South Carolina, Georgia, and Louisiana, is up slightly this season—interrupting briefly the long-term downward trend in acreage and production.

**Asparagus**—Total spring asparagus production for both fresh market and processing is forecast at 2.9 million hundredweight, 3 percent more than 1970 but 2 percent less than 1969. The Imperial Valley of California finished harvest in early April, and in the Delta district of that State, fresh market shipments eased off seasonally in mid-April. Washington, the second largest asparagus producing State, began harvest in mid-April. Harvest from a declining acreage in New Jersey began in late April. A larger share of the U.S. crop is going for processing uses this particular season.

**Broccoli**—Harvest of a moderately larger California broccoli crop was active during April in both the Salinas-Watsonville areas and in the Santa Maria-Guadalupe sections.

Most of this crop is usually frozen, but fresh market shipping is active in April. Fresh market volume has held up relatively well for this crop in recent years with fresh per capita consumption holding steady.

**Dry Onions**—The early spring onion crop in Texas is 2 percent less than a year earlier. Much higher yields could nearly offset the 10 percent acreage decline. Peak movement of the crop came after mid-April. Prices for this crop are running below a year earlier because heavy supplies of storage stocks in New York and Michigan are depressing the market. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has recently announced plans to purchase some of these New York stocks under the Section 32 program. These onions will be distributed only to eligible schools and institutions within New York State. Prices have been depressed since late last summer. The U.S. average price to growers has ranged between 3 and 4 cents per pound ever since last August, with a 2.9-cent low recorded in December.

Acreage of late spring onions in California and Arizona is 15 percent less than 1970. In California, harvest began in the Imperial Valley by late April, and will get underway in the San Joaquin Valley early in May.

Prospective early summer onion acreage is up slightly, while the late summer onion acreage is expected to be 4 percent larger than last year's large acreage and 8 percent above 1969. This increase is largely California processing acreage.

**Cantaloups**—Because of a sharp cut in Texas acreage, the planting of spring cantaloups is 11 percent less than 1970 and a third under the generous plantings of 1969.



Acreage in California and Arizona combined is moderately larger, and because of higher average yields, the U.S. spring production decrease will probably be less than acreage data suggest.

The first domestic supplies are expected from Florida and Texas in early May with Arizona and California harvests coming at the end of the same month. Imports from Mexican sources through the end of April were much larger again this season, continuing the trend of the 1960's. These imports are expected to reach a peak in early May, and then decline as Texas volume picks up.

**Watermelons**—Acreage of Florida spring watermelons is slightly less than last year. Limited harvest in the Immokalee area began in late April, and cool weather has delayed crop development in West Central Florida. Harvest volume in that State is expected to increase slowly, then peak in June with the Alachua-Gilchrist area harvest. California spring acreage is larger this year, with Imperial Valley harvest expected to begin in late May.

Early summer watermelon acreage prospects are moderately larger with most of the increase expected in Georgia, Mississippi, Texas, and California. A slight reduction in late summer acreage is expected as Missouri and Maryland acreage prospects are down. The bulk of the watermelon crop comes from the early summer seasonal group with Texas and Georgia, the leading producers, accounting for half the early summer tonnage. But Florida, in the late spring shipping season, is the heaviest producing State.

Mexican imports of watermelons are up sharply this season. The cumulative unloads from the beginning of the season to April 9 ran 45 percent more than the same period a year ago. As domestic volume increases, these imports will taper off.

## PROCESSED VEGETABLES

Total supplies of processed vegetables are now well below the previous 2 seasons, and wholesale prices have increased significantly for most major items. Barring unusual weather during the 1971 growing season, prices for most container sizes should continue to hold steady to firm at least until the new packs are offered for sale.

The current marketing season began with moderately reduced supplies of canned vegetables. A substantially reduced carryover offset a moderately larger 1970 pack. Under generally strong demand, this smaller supply has moved well. Cannery stocks at the end of the 1970/71 season will again be less than the previous year. The carryover of most items will be less except for sauerkraut, pickles, and possibly peeled tomatoes.

Stocks of frozen vegetables on April 1 were 15 percent less than a year earlier. All the leading items except broccoli and carrots were in shorter supply, but broccoli was in light supply a year earlier.

## Prospective Acreage Up Moderately

March and April intentions for 8 major vegetables—which account for 80-85 percent of the total annual processing tonnage—indicated 3 percent more total acreage of these crops in 1971. The intended acreage of sweet corn and snap beans for freezing is up substantially, while the tonnage of cabbage to be contracted for sauerkraut is down a tenth.

These intentions, assuming normal yields, would mean slightly larger 1971 packs of canned vegetables and materially larger packs of frozen.

## Anticipating the 1971/72 Supply

With average yields and normal weather conditions, the total supply of canned vegetables available next season may change little from the current season. The anticipated carryover of canned vegetables is down again, but the pack likely will be up a little.

The anticipated carryover of frozen vegetables is the smallest in years. Since most of these items are still increasing in popularity, the industry is in a position to handle a larger pack this coming season. And freezers seem to be planning to pack more in 1971. If growers and freezers expand the production of 5 leading processing vegetables (corn, peas, lima beans, snap beans, and spinach combined) in line with April intentions, the 1971 pack could be about a tenth larger than 1970. A pack of this size probably would bring the total 1971/72 supply slightly above 1970/71—when it was not burdensome.

## Prospects for Leading Vegetables

**Lima Beans**—Canned lima bean stocks March 1 were more than a fourth less than the generous quantity a year earlier. Disappearance has been relatively heavy, about 4 percent less than a year ago when the supply was 16 percent larger. Processors cut both acreage and packs materially in 1970 to bring supplies more in line with expected demand. This season, the survey of prospective plantings notes that lima bean cannery plans to contract for 5 percent more acres.

The 1970 pack of all types of frozen lima beans totaled 113 million pounds, the smallest since the early 1950's. As a result, April stocks of 78 million pounds were sharply below the burdensome levels of the previous 2 seasons. Fordhook prices have risen slightly recently, and baby lima prices have held steady to firm.

Annual disappearance of frozen limas in recent years has ranged between 140 and 150 million pounds. Prospective acreage for freezing this season is unchanged. This would be the second consecutive year of relatively light plantings. If these intentions are carried out, the 1971 tonnage of limas for freezing would hardly be adequate to maintain the usual annual disappearance, and might be small enough to encourage a rise in f.o.b. prices.



Table 2.—Vegetables for commercial processing: Prospective plantings

Crop	Planted acreage			1971 as percentage of	
	Average 1965-69	1970	Prospective 1971	Average 1965-69	1970
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	Percent
Beans, green lima:					
Freezing .....	65	47	47	72	100
Canning .....	34	27	29	85	107
Beans, snap:					
Freezing .....	61	52	60	98	115
Canning .....	208	190	190	91	100
Beets for canning .....	19	16	15	79	93
Corn, sweet:					
Freezing .....	124	94	105	85	112
Canning .....	362	335	338	93	101
Cucumbers for pickles .....	145	140	135	93	96
Peas, green:					
Freezing .....	170	142	143	84	101
Canning .....	303	265	277	91	105
Spinach, winter:					
Freezing .....	6	5	6	100	120
Canning .....	5	4	5	100	125
Tomatoes .....	309	249	269	87	108
Total 8 crops .....	1,811	1,566	1,619	89	103

*Snap Beans*—Canners' stocks of green and wax beans on March 1 were a tenth less than a year ago. All the stock reduction is in the West where Blue Lake beans are important. Other regions have larger stocks than in 1970.

The smaller carryin to the 1970/71 season was largely responsible for the smaller stocks reported on March 1. The 1969 and 1970 packs were roughly equal in size, and the movement to date has matched the high levels of the 2 previous seasons.

The prospective acreage of snap beans for canning is the same as in 1970. With average yields per acre, and average packs per ton of raw product, the total supply would decline a little.

Stocks of frozen snap beans are 18 percent smaller than a year ago. The carryin to the current season was sharply smaller than a year earlier, while the 1970 pack was moderately larger. Disappearance from this reduced supply has been heavier this season. Prices have been steady to firm. The acreage planned for freezing in 1971 is expected to be 16 percent larger than 1970, and a materially larger pack is expected. Past performance suggests such an increase could be absorbed without too much difficulty.

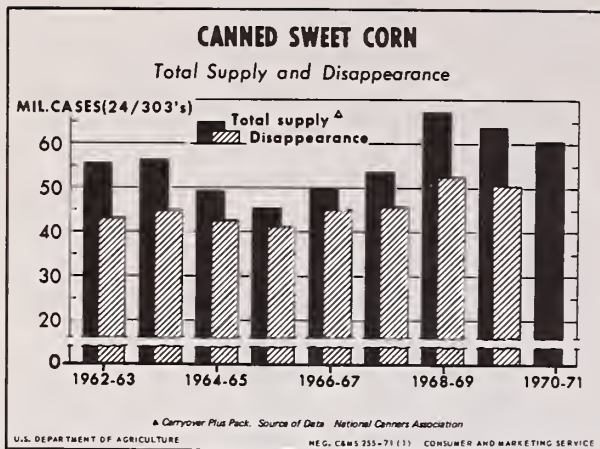
*Green Peas*—Prospective acres of peas for canning are 4 percent more than 1970 with substantial increase in the Eastern States, a moderate increase in the Central States, and a moderate decrease in the West. With average yields, this could mean about 5 percent larger canning tonnage. Such an increase is not likely to cause any marketing problem, since March 1 stocks were about a fifth less than a year ago and well below the average of the last 4 years.

Disappearance of canned peas has lagged this season. Supplies at the beginning of the current marketing season were down substantially, so it is not likely that

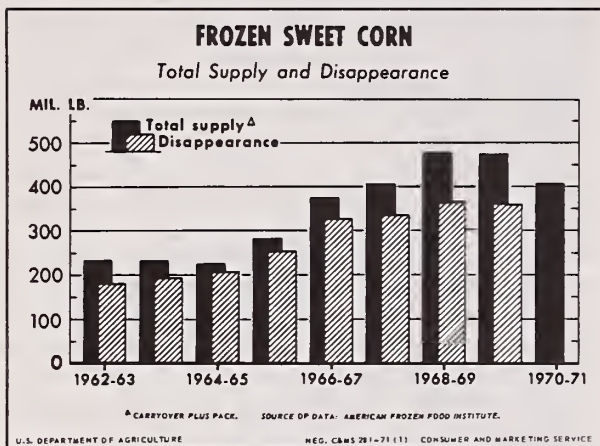
movement will equal the 34 million cases (24/303's equivalent) that markets have been absorbing in each of the past 4 seasons. This suggests that demand for canned peas is not as strong as for some other processed vegetables. Per capita consumption trends of recent years tend to bear this out.

The 1970 pack of frozen peas was the smallest since 1960, and April stocks were lowest since 1967. Freezers plan to increase the acreage planted in 1971 by only 1 percent. Part of the reason for this apparently conservative increase is that an average yield in 1971 would result in a 5 percent larger tonnage available for freezing. The reduction in the 1970 pack was the result of lower than average yields from a reduced acreage. Such an increase for the 1971/72 season would not represent an oversupply, nor would it likely depress prices, assuming than competing processed vegetables hold reasonably close to trade needs. Wholesale prices for 24/10 ounce packages are currently nearly a fifth higher than in March and April 1970.

*Sweet corn*—Stocks of canned sweet corn on March 1 were about 9 percent less than a year ago and an eighth less than the burdensome supplies of 2 years ago. Even with this improved supply position, stocks of the 303 size are relatively large. Earlier this year wholesale prices for this size weakened slightly. However, improved movement during February and a USDA purchase for the needy has stabilized prices for this particular can size. Other can sizes have been moving well, and the total canned carryover next August is expected to be below that of 1969 or 1970—in the range of 8 or 9 million cases 303's—canners and distributors, instead of 13 to 14 million. Canners are planning to contract 1 percent more acres in 1971, with only slight changes expected in the major sections. With yields near average, the 1971 tonnage and pack would be about 1 percent larger than a year earlier.



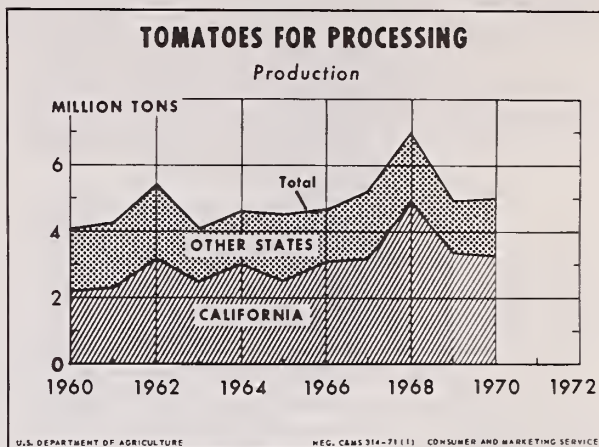
Stocks of frozen sweet corn on April 1 were 30 percent less than a year ago, and wholesale prices received by packers have been advancing throughout the marketing season. The 1970 pack was nearly a fifth less than a year earlier. Even with shorter supplies and higher prices, disappearance has been at a relatively high rate. The 1971 carryover is expected to be quite small.



Acreage intentions for freezing are up an eighth over 1970. Such an acreage would provide moderately larger tonnage for the 1971 pack, and probably would maintain the relatively heavy disappearance of this increasingly popular processed vegetable item.

**Tomatoes**—Record yields were responsible for the slight increase in 1970 processing tomato tonnage. Much of the apparent larger increase in the total pack of tomato products is the result of packing a larger share of the less-concentrated items. Stocks data for the various products are not complete, but current price trends suggest supplies generally about in balance with trade needs. Peeled tomato prices showed some weakness at the beginning of the market season reflecting the larger pack, though prices have held fairly steady for juice. Tomato paste prices are moderately higher than a year earlier. A recent trade release noted that the 1970 tomato puree pack was about a sixth under the 1969

figure, or less than half the excessive quantity produced in 1968. These developments suggest the industry will be shifting a larger share of the 1971 pack to the more concentrated items now less plentiful than either peeled or juice.



Improvement in tomato product prices during 1970 attracted a moderate increase in imports. Imports of canned tomatoes, 129 million pounds, largely from Italy and Spain, amounted to about 5½ million cases (24/303's equivalent). This is a little more than one-eighth of the domestic pack of peeled tomatoes. Imports of tomato paste and sauce also moved up moderately to a 1970 total of 91 million pounds. Such a figure would represent a significant but unknown fraction of the U.S. pack of the same products.

The prospective plantings report also suggests a heavier 1971 pack of concentrated products. Growers in California, the major source of concentrated products, intend to raise a 19 percent larger acreage. Growers in the other States plan less, but the U.S. total acreage is expected to be up 8 percent. If yields in 1971 hold close to the average of recent years, total U.S. tonnage would be up only slightly. But if another yield record were set in 1971, difficulty might develop in moving some of the finished products into marketing channels.

**Cucumbers for Pickles**—The total supply of pickles in the current marketing season is materially larger than a year earlier. Disappearance is expected to continue relatively heavy. The industry is planning to hold 1971 acreage below the 1970 figure. The prospective planted acreage of 135,380 is down 4 percent from last year and 3 percent less than 1969. Among the major producing States, North Carolina, South Carolina, and California, plan to raise more, but less is expected in Wisconsin and Michigan.

**Sauerkraut**—The 1970 kraut pack was the largest since 1967, and stocks on March 1 were about a fourth larger than the moderate supply on hand a year earlier.

Intentions reports in early April indicated that packers were planning to contract for a tenth smaller cabbage tonnage in 1971. These intentions do not



include open market purchases which in 1970 made up one-eighth of the total supply.

**Beets**—Stocks of beets on January 1 were moderately less than the large supply on hand a year earlier. Movement of the pack has been somewhat heavier than the previous season, and prices are higher. Nonetheless, stocks are ample, and processors plan reductions in 1971 acreage. Processors plan to cut acreage by 7 percent with New York and Wisconsin down 5 percent each.

**Spinach**—Frozen spinach supplies, with a 25-million pound March 1 carryin, are again relatively low. This modest supply is currently being augmented by pack from a 7 percent larger winter production in California and Florida. Stocks on April 1 had moved up to 41 million pounds. Wholesale prices declined recently as pack volume picked up considerably.

The pack of canned spinach March 1970 to March 1971 was 7.3 million cases, a tenth larger than a year earlier. Stocks on March 1 were down 15 percent. Recent prices for canned have held firm.

## POTATOES

### Prices Depressed

Potato markets have been weak ever since the record-large 1970 fall crop started to move to market in early October. U.S. grower prices for the first quarter of 1971 dropped 43 cents per hundredweight from a year ago. Less than the usual storage season price rise occurred; the U.S. grower price moved from a \$1.85 November low to \$2.00 as of March 15. In Maine shipping point prices have scarcely moved since November, and in Idaho they drifted down from \$3.30 per hundredweight to \$3.00 by early April for the 2-inch or 4-ounce minimum U.S. No. 1. Only in certain of the Central States have prices shown any seasonal improvement, but even there the heavy national supply situation seemed to dominate. New crop Florida prices are now a little higher than a year earlier.

### Movement Up—Stocks Up Also

According to rail and truck unloads in major U.S. markets, movement of the fall crop to shippers and table stock outlets has been less again this year, perhaps by as much as 3 percent since October 1. But, a trade source noted that the Western States had moved a moderately larger tonnage through these channels up to April 2 of this year. This same source noted that western tonnage used for processing as of the same date was a tenth larger than the record quantity absorbed a year earlier. Even with this expanded rate of disposition, potato stocks in 8 western fall States were up 11 percent on March 1. U.S. stocks on the same date were up 8 percent—record high for the date. With a substantial quantity of old stock potatoes to be moved, May prices probably will continue under pressure.

The Florida and California winter crops were substantially smaller this year and the early-spring production, largely from Hastings, Fla., is also reduced. In that section, moisture is adequate, and the crop has recovered well from earlier frost damage. Harvest may be a little later than usual. Shipments will begin in early May. Harvest became active in "other" Florida areas during April.

There is a slight acreage increase expected in the late spring producing areas. California planting, which accounts for nearly half the total acreage, is up 4 percent. Kern County harvest began in late April. Alabama and Texas also expect to harvest a larger acreage. The Baldwin County, Ala., crop has made good progress and harvest there will be underway by mid-May.

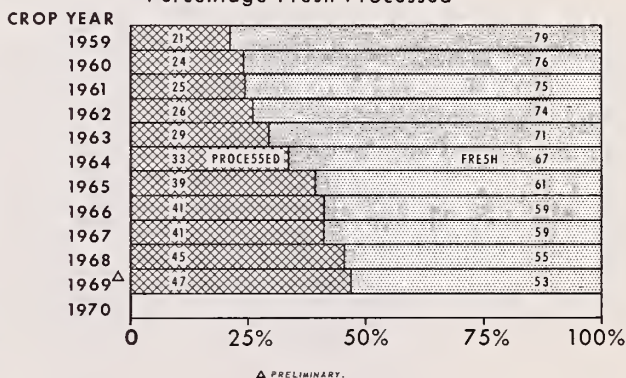
### Stocks of Frozen Products Up

Exact comparisons with a year earlier cannot be made, but the recent Cold Storage Stocks Report of SRS suggests that frozen potato products, mostly french fries, are in substantially larger supply. Most of the increase is in the Pacific Coast States. The 1970 pack of frozen potato products was record large, and movement through trade channels continues to increase annually.

The indicated acreage of the early summer potato crop is practically the same as 1970 for all the States in this seasonal group. This includes no change in Virginia, the most important in the group, and slightly less acreage in Texas. Central Alabama and Delaware also ship in this group.

## POTATO FOOD USE

Percentage Fresh-Processed



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. C&MS 177-70 (19) CONSUMER AND MARKETING SERVICE

Table 3.—Pack of Frozen Potato Products\*

Year	Million lb.	Year	Million lb.
1960	551	1966	1,460
1961	579	1967	1,491
1962	762	1968	1,736
1963	862	1969	2,048
1964	1,118	1970	2,404
1965	1,219		

\*American Frozen Food Institute



## Late Summer and Fall Prospective Acreage up Slightly

Despite the burdensome supply conditions in the current marketing season, intended plantings of late summer and fall potatoes are estimated slightly more than a year earlier. Intended acreage reductions in Maine and most other North Atlantic States almost offset increases in other major regions. Acreage increases expected in other major States are as follows: Minnesota +3 percent, Idaho +3 percent, and Washington +5 percent. If the intended late summer and fall acreage is planted, and if growers realize only average yields adjusted for trend, 1971 production would total 273 million hundredweight—3 percent less than the 1970 record. Another crop of this size would likely keep prices next fall and winter at depressed levels.

## SWEETPOTATOES

The 1970 crop of 14.1 million hundredweight was moderately less than a year earlier. As a result, monthly prices have averaged higher than the previous season, and have also shown the typical storage season price rise. Early in the marketing season, USDA made extensive purchases of processed sweetpotatoes—equivalent to about 10 percent of the processed pack—for distribution to school lunch programs and needy persons. The

1970/71 canned sweetpotato pack will probably be less than the large quantity packed the previous season.

The prospective 1971 acreage is the lowest of record—125,000. This is 14 percent less than 1970. Louisiana expects to cut acreage by more than a third, with Virginia also down 20 percent. No changes are expected in Georgia, Mississippi, Texas, and California, and a 10 percent increase in North Carolina is in prospect. Allowing for trend, production from these intended plantings is estimated at 11.9 million hundredweight—16 percent less than 1970.

## MUSHROOMS

Demand for fresh mushrooms continues exceptionally strong. Growers have received substantially higher prices this year. Mid-April prices for 4 quart baskets, medium to large, were \$2.30-\$2.50 at Kennett Square, Pa. The comparable price a year ago was \$1.50-\$2.00. Further evidence of strong demand shows up in the markedly larger air shipments moving out of Philadelphia.

Processing mushroom prices also are much higher than last year. Bed-run pulled mushrooms with roots attached have been selling for 37-45 cents per pound, mostly 37 cents. This is 6 cents per pound more than April 1970.

Imports of canned mushrooms have increased; total imports for the 1970 calendar year amounted to 24.8

Table 4.—Potatoes, late summer-fall: Prospective plantings

Crop and area	Acreage planted			
	Average 1965-69	1970	Prospective 1971 <sup>1</sup>	1971 as percentage of 1970
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
<b>Late summer-fall</b>				
Maine .....	157.2	153.0	145.0	95
New York-Long Island .....	36.4	31.0	31.5	102
-Upstate .....	37.9	35.0	34.0	97
Pennsylvania .....	37.8	35.0	37.5	107
Other States <sup>2</sup> .....	44.5	36.6	35.3	96
Eastern .....	313.8	290.6	283.3	97
Michigan .....	45.7	41.1	39.8	97
Wisconsin .....	57.8	53.0	52.5	99
Minnesota .....	108.9	102.9	105.9	103
North Dakota .....	114.8	120.0	120.0	100
Other States <sup>3</sup> .....	45.5	45.2	45.4	100
Central .....	372.7	362.2	363.6	100
Idaho .....	305.4	330.0	340.0	103
Colorado .....	48.6	54.0	52.0	96
Washington .....	61.9	87.0	91.0	105
Oregon .....	45.5	58.0	56.0	97
California .....	37.8	35.8	34.4	96
Other States <sup>4</sup> .....	23.1	20.7	20.4	99
Western .....	522.3	585.5	593.8	101
Total late summer-fall .	1,209.0	1,238.3	1,240.7	100.2

<sup>1</sup> Intended acreage as of March 1. <sup>2</sup> New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina. <sup>3</sup> Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Illinois. <sup>4</sup> Montana, Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

million pounds, 87 percent from Taiwan. (Calendar 1969 imports came to 22.7 million pounds.) The first 2 months of 1971 showed a sharp increase in imports.

U.S. production data will be available later in the year, but the continued strong market demand suggests that earlier intentions to fill 3 percent more beds in 1970/71 may have represented a conservative appraisal of the potential demand. In the light of current experience some expansion is likely for 1971/72.

## DRY EDIBLE BEANS

### Supplies Moderately Less

The 1970 dry bean crop was smaller than year earlier, and total supplies available this marketing season are moderately less as well—but only slightly below the average of all seasons back to 1965. This big reduction in supply is mainly the result of a much smaller pea bean crop in Michigan. Colored beans make up a larger portion of the current supply; 1970 production increased for all colored classes except red kidneys.

Disappearance of the 1970 crop is being tailored to a smaller supply. Total domestic use is probably close to that of a year ago. Government purchases to date for the needy and the school lunch programs are substantially higher than the corresponding months a year earlier. However, export movement is materially below the unusually large shipments of the previous season. Exports from September 1970 through February were 1.9 million hundredweight compared with 2.2 million hundredweight a year earlier. Stocks remaining at the end of August are expected to be about the same as or a little less than a year ago.

### Much Higher Prices

Bean prices have been unusually strong in recent months. The \$10.20 hundredweight U.S. average farm prices is the highest for March since the late 1940's. This is sharp advance from the \$7.13 average of last September.

White bean prices to growers are sharply higher this year. Colored beans have been selling for less, except for red kidneys which are again scarce. Dealer prices for this class exceeded \$20.00 a hundredweight for much of the season. With these market conditions, price support activity has been light this year, when compared to the 1969 crop. Through March 31, growers had placed 1.366 million hundredweight under loan but only 482,000 hundredweight has been redeemed leaving 884,000 hundredweight or 65 percent still outstanding. Last year as of March 31, growers had placed 1.942 million hundredweight under loan and redeemed 693,000 hundredweight, leaving about 1.249 million hundredweight outstanding.

## 1971 Crop Support Prices Announced

The U.S. Department of Agriculture on March 26 announced that the national average support price for 1971-crop dry edible beans will be \$6.40 per hundredweight, unchanged from the 1970 crop.

The support rates for all individual classes of beans except Baby Limas are also unchanged from last year. The 1971-support rate for Baby Limas will be \$5.99 per hundredweight, an increase of 40 cents, bringing the support rate more nearly in line with the trend in market prices.

Price support will be available for U.S. No. 2 or higher grade beans as listed. The support rates are for cleaned and bagged beans with all charges, except receiving and loading out, paid through the price-support loan maturity date of April 30, 1972. The deductions from loan rates for farm-stored thresher-run beans will continue at \$2.00 per hundredweight in New York; \$1.50 per hundredweight in Michigan for all classes except pea beans, which will be \$1.00 per hundredweight; and \$1.00 per hundredweight for all classes in other States. These deductions cover cleaning and bagging costs.

Premiums and discounts for the 1971 program are the same as under the 1970 program. In addition to U.S. No. 1 grade and U.S. Prime handpicked pea beans, the other supported grades and applicable premiums and discounts from U.S. No. 1 are: Premiums—U.S. Choice handpicked and U.S. Extra No. 1 grades are 10 cents per hundredweight for all except pea beans, on which the premium for U.S. Choice handpicked grade is 25 cents; discounts—U.S. No. 2 grade, 25 cents.

### 1971 Planting Intentions

Early in March, U.S. growers planned 4 percent less acreage in 1971. Considering only the more important producing States, the largest reductions are expected in New York, Washington, and in California lima bean areas. Despite exceptionally favorable prices for both pea and kidney beans, Michigan expects to cut acreage by 3 percent. Some increased acreage is expected in Utah, Idaho, and Wyoming. Assuming growers plant this intended acreage, and average yields are adjusted for the long-term trend, the 1971 U.S. dry bean crop would be only 1 percent larger than the relatively small 1970 crop.

## DRY FIELD PEAS

1970/71 supply of dry field peas was about an eighth less than the large quantity available a year earlier, but prices for greens are down slightly and yellows are substantially weaker. The March average grower price of \$4.20 per hundredweight was 2 percent below a year earlier. These weaker prices are related to export demand.

Exports of the 1970 crop, September through March 1971, from Pacific Northwest ports have been running 9



percent less than the large quantities moved during the previous season. This current level of 178 million pounds is still relatively large, and if movement can be sustained, the carryover may be well below that of a year earlier.

Growers expected to plan an eight less acreage in 1971. Washington growers expected to plant 16 percent less, and in Idaho 9 percent less. If these intentions

materialize, and yields are average, 1971 production would be moderately above the 4 million hundredweight produced in 1970, when yields were low.

Domestic demand for seed and food uses is not expected to be greatly different in 1971. Thus growers would have to depend upon another relatively large export season to maintain prices for the 1971 crop.



# RECENT VEGETABLE SUPPLY TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS

By  
Charles W. Porter  
Agricultural Economist  
Economic Research Service

**ABSTRACT:** Vegetable production is concentrating in fewer and fewer specialized areas. In the 1960's the West became more dominant in both fresh market and processing vegetable production. Four States now produce 7/8 of the U.S. processed tomatoes; 2 States 5/6 of the U.S. lettuce; 5 States 4/5 of all sweet corn for processing; and 4 States 2/3 of U.S. onion production. Domestic crop production requiring extensive hand labor has lagged while imports, largely from Mexico, have increased.

**KEY WORDS:** fresh vegetables, processed vegetables, Mexico, and imports.

## Introduction

Areas of vegetable production shifted markedly in the 1960's. Many factors caused the shifts. On the farm, difference in production costs in the major producing areas, new production technology, the scarcity of farm labor, the ability to substitute capital and equipment for this labor, and improved highway transport—all have given some new and usually more distant-to-market areas opportunity to compete. In the market there are changing tastes and shifts in consumer preference. This article notes the impact of some of these changes in the 1960's on major fresh market and processing vegetables. For a few fresh market items, import trends are also considered because of their increasing importance in recent years.

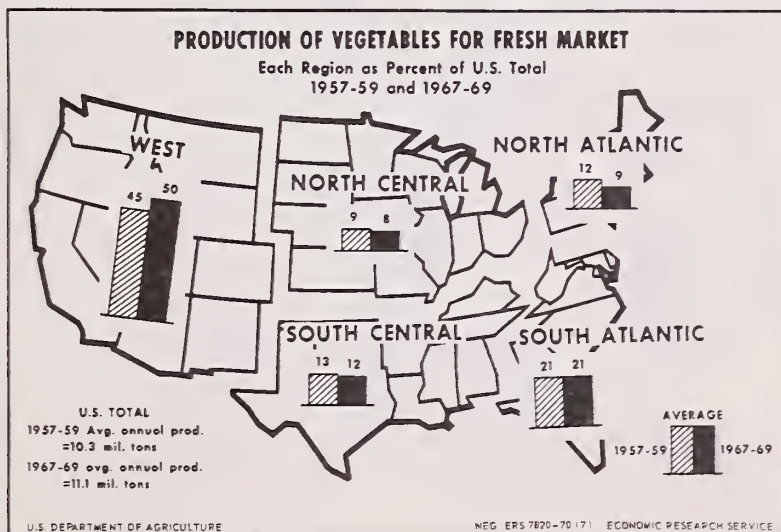
## Fresh Vegetable Production Shows Moderate Growth

The domestic fresh vegetable industry grew only moderately during the 1960's even though population

increased and incomes rose. Average annual production in 1957-59 was a little more than 10 million tons, moving up to 11 million during 1967-69. But total disappearance of fresh vegetables gained more because imports, mostly from Mexico, rose rapidly, while exports moved up less. The net increase in supplies was not enough to maintain per capita use of fresh vegetables, which dropped from 106 pounds in 1960 to 98 in 1967-69.

## Fresh Vegetable Production Shifts Westward

The West has become more dominant in supplying fresh vegetables to American markets. Now, half the domestic fresh vegetables (excluding potatoes) came from this region. Most of this shift has come at the expense of the North Atlantic region. Fresh vegetable production continues to shift to areas where climate is less important as a limiting factor. Seasonal advantages in production have helped both the South Central and South Atlantic regions maintain their share of U.S.



production. With about two-thirds of the total acreage, California, Florida, Texas, Arizona, and New York, now account for 70-75 percent of all fresh market vegetable production. California alone accounted for 39 percent of the U.S. total in 1970.

California increased its fresh market vegetable production from 67 million hundredweight and 33 percent of the U.S. total 1957-59 average to 82 million and 39 percent of the total 1967-69 average. In the East, output dropped substantially in both New York and New Jersey. In Michigan, the major Midwestern producer, production increased moderately, and its share of U.S. total output held steady.

### Imports of Fresh Vegetables Increasing

The 1960's saw rising levels of fresh vegetable imports, stimulated by rising costs of farm labor in this labor intensive industry and accelerating costs of other production inputs. In recent years imports have made up about 4 percent of total fresh market vegetable supplies, compared with 2-1/2 percent annually in the 1957-59 period. But with some vegetables the percentage has moved up faster and has been much higher. For example, 20 percent of the fresh cucumbers and eggplant used in 1969 were imported and so were 18 percent of fresh market tomatoes, mostly from Mexico. Since most of these fresh vegetables are imported during the winter and early spring, the import share would of course be much higher when related solely to these affected time periods.

Mexico is by far the largest source of foreign supply for fresh vegetable markets. Of 10 million hundredweight of fresh vegetables imported from that country in calendar 1970, fresh tomatoes accounted for 6.4 million. Most of these tomatoes were shipped during the winter, usually from mid-November through April,—a time when Florida and California are in direct competition. This figure was more than 3 times the quantity Mexico shipped annually during the 1957-59.

Fresh vegetables—U.S. imports from Mexico

Vegetables	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970
	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Cucumbers .	39	760	1,222
Onions . . . .	198	544	618
Peppers . . . .	147	310	639
Tomatoes . .	1,890	3,987	6,410
Other . . . . .	258	744	1,118
Total . . . .	2,532	6,345	10,007

Cucumber imports were almost negligible in the 1950's but had risen to more than 1.2 million hundredweight by 1970. More than 0.6 million hundredweight of onions and peppers from Mexico entered the United States in 1970.

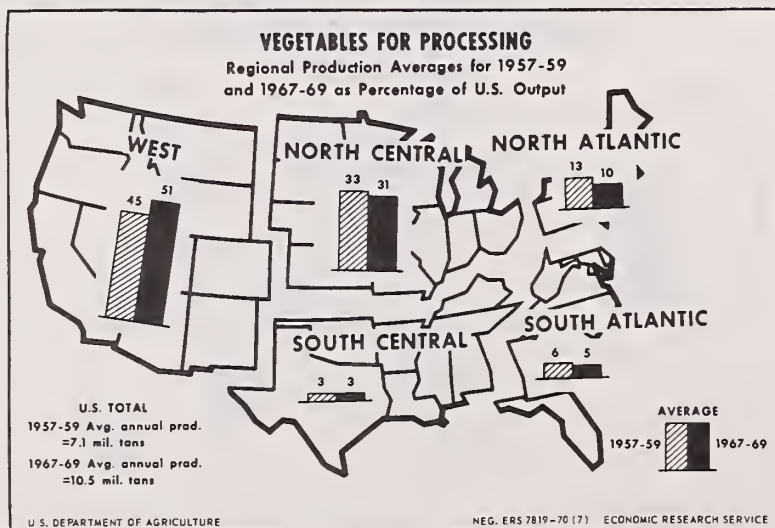
Competition to the American vegetable industry from abroad in coming years will continue to be closely related to domestic labor costs and other labor problems. The replacement of men by machines, where feasible, as has been accomplished in much of the processing vegetable industry, will tend to ease some of the pressure on domestic producers. But in the absence of restrictions, imports are likely to increase further, because labor and other costs in the domestic vegetable industry are likely to rise fairly rapidly.

In the processed vegetable sector, significant competition from imports has been limited largely to tomato products from Mediterranean countries, and canned mushrooms from Taiwan.

Exports of fresh vegetables, mostly to Canada, have taken about 3 percent of domestic production in recent years—a figure not likely to change greatly in the 1970's.

### West Makes Gains in Processing Vegetables

The vegetable industry has responded to the shift to convenience foods by increasing the tonnage of vegetables used for processing from 7.1 million tons (1957-59 average) to 10.5 million tons (1967-69 average).





Most of this increase has come in the Pacific Coast States, and a little more than half the processed vegetable production now originates in the West. Some additional tomato, sweet corn, and pickle tonnage has come from the North Central area but not enough to maintain this region's share of total output. In contrast to fresh market vegetables, Southern regions contribute only a small share of total processing crops. The declining share of the North Atlantic States is attributed largely to interregional competition with the West where yields are higher and per ton production costs are lower for many important crops.

California alone now accounts for nearly 40 percent of all processed vegetable tonnage. The leading States—California, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Oregon, and Ohio—account for 65 percent of the U.S. total. Each of these States except Wisconsin has expanded its share of the U.S. total. By doubling production in the same period, Oregon increased its share of U.S. output to nearly 5 percent of the U.S. total. Washington posted a similar spectacular gain, to 4 percent of U.S. total in 1967-69.

In the Midwest, Wisconsin's share of U.S. processed vegetable tonnage declined from 9.4 percent in 1957-59 to 8.6 percent in 1967-69 even though its total tonnage moved up by a third. Substantial increases in tomato production moved the Ohio share of processed vegetable output to nearly 6 percent of the U.S. total in 1967-69. Minnesota also contributed 6 percent of the total.

On the Atlantic Seaboard, both New York and New Jersey declined in relative importance. New York accounted for 4 percent of U.S. output in 1967-69 average and New Jersey, 3 percent. But both States showed substantial tonnage gains during the comparable time periods.

#### Production Trends for Leading Vegetables

Considering the more important fresh market and processing vegetables, there seems to be a continuing shift to States where these vegetables are already very important. In some instances like processing tomatoes, where the bulk of production is already concentrated, any further shift will be at a slower rate. In other cases, as with cucumber pickles or fresh market sweet corn,

further concentration in fewer major producing States is expected.

#### Processing Tomatoes

To meet a steadily expanding demand for processed tomato products, especially the concentrated items, U.S. tomato tonnage moved up 54 percent between 1957-59 and 1967-69 averages. This rather rapid growth is associated with the development of franchised retail food outlets that feature hamburgers, french fries, and pizza—foods usually accompanied by catsup, paste, and tomato sauces.

At the same time, production of tomatoes has become concentrated in two areas. Tomatoes have long been important in California, which now produces two-thirds of the Nation's tonnage. The remainder is mainly in a belt of States running eastward from Indiana to the Delmarva Peninsula and New Jersey. Ohio is the second largest tomato producing State.

#### Fresh Market Tomatoes

Fresh market tomato acreage in the United States declined 30 percent between 1957-59 and 1967-69. Yields increased, however, and U.S. production rose a little.

Florida and California account for about two-thirds of the annual U.S. production. Florida output moved upward during the 1960's while California's held fairly steady. Their shipping seasons overlap to some extent with the Florida harvest most active from the late fall through the spring. California harvest becomes active by the first of June and tapers off in December, with limited quantities produced for local markets other times of the year. Spring supplies from Texas have dropped sharply in recent years. No other State produces an appreciable share of the total, but South Carolina has been supplying increasing quantities in the late spring season. Alabama and New Jersey contribute to August and September markets, but neither comes close to matching California volume those 2 months. Greenhouse tomato production from Ohio is especially important from late April to early July. Hothouse production accounted for a little more than a tenth of the total tomato unloads in 41 major cities in May

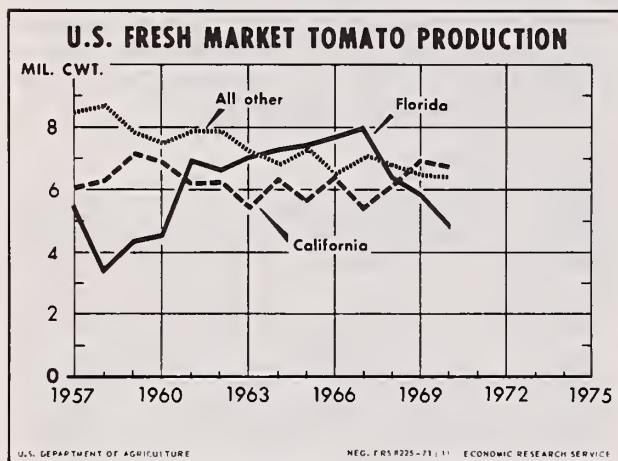
Tomatoes for processing: Production in leading States

State	Production			Percent of U.S. total		
	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Percent	Percent	Percent
California .....	2,215,964	3,822,930	3,341,700	60	67	67
Ohio .....	232,400	534,982	545,650	6	9	11
Indiana .....	229,233	282,782	295,200	6	5	6
New Jersey .....	199,766	291,182	280,000	5	5	6
Other States .....	834,083	751,786	562,050	22	13	11
Total U.S. ....	3,711,446	5,683,662	5,024,600	100	100	100



**Tomatoes, fresh: Production in leading States**

State	Production			Percent of U.S. total		
	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970
	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	Percent	Percent	Percent
Florida .....	4,469	6,797	4,926	23	35	27
California .....	6,520	6,193	6,777	34	31	37
South Carolina .....	375	699	632	2	4	4
New Jersey .....	747	636	570	4	3	3
Texas .....	1,462	458	525	8	2	3
Alabama .....	267	424	437	1	2	2
Other States .....	5,507	4,559	4,251	28	23	24
<b>Total U.S. ....</b>	<b>19,347</b>	<b>19,766</b>	<b>18,118</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>



held about steady. With increased yields, U.S. production moved up sharply between 1957-59 and 1967-69.

California lettuce is on the market year-round. Arizona is a major supplier from the late fall through early spring. Colorado and New York augment California summer supplies and some production from New Mexico is marketed early in the fall. Texas and Florida also add to winter supplies, but on an annual basis 5 heads out of 6 produced in the United States in the 1967-69 period came from California or Arizona.

The dominance of these 2 States was largely established before the late 1950's. Arizona acreage has since trended downward, but increased yields have maintained production. California largely accounted for most of the increased U.S. production during the 1960's.

1969,—the peak shipping month for this production area.

Imports have been by far the most important change in the origin of our fresh tomato supply in recent years. Throughout the 1960's tomato imports from Mexico have been making up a larger share of the annual U.S. supply moving from 9 percent in 1957-59 to 18 percent in 1969 and 24 percent in 1970. This large quantity competes with both California and Florida; the 3 sources provide about four-fifths of the commercial quantity consumed annually in the United States.

#### Lettuce

California is the Nation's largest lettuce producer. Its acreage increased in the 1960's although the U.S. total

#### Fresh Market Sweet Corn

Except for Florida, the largest producer, most of the fresh sweet corn is confined to local outlets in the Northeast and Lake States. California is also a major producer, selling practically all its output in the Pacific Coast States.

Florida growers have made special efforts in refrigerated handling and transport to maintain the quality of this highly perishable product. With this major exception, most sweet corn is not shipped far to market, since maintaining sugar content is difficult, especially during the summer. The Florida shipping season runs from the late fall through May, and both acreage and production there expanded sharply during the 1960's. Florida has provided a third of the national supply

**Lettuce: Production in leading States**

State	Production			Percent of U.S. total		
	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970
	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	Percent	Percent	Percent
California .....	20,297	28,031	31,493	58	64	68
Arizona .....	8,566	8,594	8,669	25	20	19
Other States .....	5,806	7,063	5,948	17	16	13
<b>Total U.S. ....</b>	<b>34,669</b>	<b>43,688</b>	<b>46,110</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

## Sweet corn, fresh: Production in leading States

State	Production			Percent of U.S. total		
	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970
	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	Percent	Percent	Percent
Florida .....	2,930	4,319	4,220	24	34	33
New York .....	1,108	957	1,032	9	8	8
California .....	1,503	867	1,063	12	7	9
Ohio .....	940	885	850	7	7	6
New Jersey .....	988	855	896	8	7	7
Michigan .....	704	802	904	6	6	7
Pennsylvania .....	853	680	678	7	6	5
Other States .....	3,406	3,191	3,168	27	25	25
Other U.S. ....	12,432	12,556	12,811	100	100	100

annually since 1967—making a substantial increase in recent years. Fresh market sweet corn production has been maintained in this country in recent years primarily because Florida has successfully extended its market season.

The other major sweet corn producing States do not compete with Florida; they supply the market during the summer. These States include New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Michigan. In the 1957-59 period, these 5 States supplied half the U.S. production, but their contribution now amounts to 40 percent.

#### Sweet Corn for Processing

Per capita demand for both canned and frozen sweet corn increased during the 1960's. As a result, tonnage in all the major producing States moved upward. The Pacific Northwest now accounts for about a fourth of U.S. production, up from about one-tenth in the late 1950's. Considerable geographical specialization in sweet

corn processing has taken place, as four-fifths of all production in the 1967-69 period came from 5 States listed in the table.

#### Fresh Market Cabbage

Fresh market cabbage is more cosmopolitan than most of the major vegetable crops, as all sections of the

country contribute in some measure to the total supply. The leading producers are New York, Florida, Texas, California, and Wisconsin. These States accounted for about three-fifths of the U.S. production in 1967-69, up from one-half 10 years earlier. Thus, even though cabbage is widely grown, a degree of concentration of production took place during the 1960's. These data do not include substantial quantities of cabbage grown under contract for sauerkraut, mainly in New York and Wisconsin. Also, some of the cabbage in the Northern States is used for sauerkraut, even though originally it may have been intended for fresh use.

Fresh market cabbage production moved up only slightly during the 1960's and per capita use fell 14 percent. Average yields increased, as acreage planted declined about a tenth. Some further decline in per capita use is likely as less cabbage is expected to be used for home cooking the next few years.

#### Snap Beans for Processing

Acreage and production of snap beans both trended upward sharply during the 1960's. U.S. production advanced two-thirds from 1957-59 to 1967-69. Per capita use of both canned and frozen gained markedly. The sharp increase in the use of canned snap beans at least in some measure reflects the wider use of improved varieties having better flavor and eating quality. The Blue Lake strains exemplify how an improved vegetable variety can create a larger market.

## Sweet corn for processing: Production in leading States

State	Production <sup>1</sup>			Percent of U.S. total		
	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970
	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	Percent	Percent	Percent
Minnesota .....	328,300	552,682	513,600	22	25	27
Wisconsin .....	341,599	468,550	449,250	23	21	24
Washington .....	78,900	283,550	147,850	5	13	8
Oregon .....	83,800	257,233	208,850	6	12	11
Illinois .....	200,666	253,466	174,400	14	11	9
Other States .....	445,590	414,700	377,100	30	19	20
Total U.S. ....	1,478,855	2,230,181	1,871,050	100	100	100

<sup>1</sup> In husk.

**Cabbage: Production in leading States**

State	Production			Percent of U.S. total		
	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970
	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
New York .....	3,464	4,116	4,269	16	17	18
Florida .....	2,317	3,731	2,923	10	16	12
California .....	2,521	2,484	2,559	11	11	11
Texas .....	2,107	2,323	3,040	10	10	13
Wisconsin .....	1,756	1,868	2,013	8	8	9
North Carolina .....	1,211	1,062	1,018	5	4	4
Michigan .....	663	773	917	3	3	4
Other States .....	8,131	7,197	6,898	37	31	29
Total U.S. ....	22,170	23,554	23,637	100	100	100

**Snap Beans for processing: Production in leading States**

State	Production			Percent of U.S. total		
	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970
	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Oregon .....	86,000	148,400	132,150	24	24	23
New York .....	63,000	99,500	102,550	17	16	18
Wisconsin .....	32,467	92,083	99,650	9	15	17
Illinois .....		21,300	16,850		4	3
Michigan .....	11,333	21,250	20,000	3	4	4
Tennessee .....	15,533	19,317	23,850	4	3	4
Maryland .....	14,833	18,733	18,500	4	3	3
Other States .....	140,890	190,063	156,100	39	31	27
Total U.S. ....	364,056	610,646	569,650	100	100	100

<sup>1</sup> Not available separately.

**Green peas for processing: Production in leading States**

State	Production			Percent of U.S. total		
	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Wisconsin .....	136,306	148,800	137,600	27	26	29
Washington .....	96,757	133,533	95,600	19	24	20
Minnesota .....	57,627	76,240	71,500	11	13	15
Oregon .....	67,343	48,667	42,400	13	9	9
Other States .....	147,530	158,543	129,150	29	28	27
Total U.S. ....	505,563	565,783	476,250	100	100	100



## Onions: Production in leading States

State	Production			Percent in U.S. total		
	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970
	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
California .....	4,301	7,181	7,630	17	25	25
Texas .....	3,625	4,446	4,811	15	16	16
New York .....	4,562	3,905	4,935	19	14	16
Oregon .....	2,002	2,837	2,976	8	10	10
Michigan .....	2,232	2,164	2,304	9	7	8
Colorado .....	2,175	1,726	1,653	9	6	5
Idaho .....	703	1,676	1,978	3	6	6
Other States .....	4,979	4,586	4,122	20	16	14
Total U.S. ....	24,579	28,521	30,409	100	100	100

States accounted for 55 percent of the U.S. processing snap bean output. Tennessee, Michigan, Illinois, and Maryland produce moderate supplies of beans and generally maintained their share of national output during the 1960's.

## Green Peas for Processing

Production of peas for processing increased by only an eighth during the 1960's considerably less than other leading processing crops. Wisconsin, Washington, Minnesota, and Oregon account for about three-fourths of the U.S. production. These States produced about the same share in recent years as they did in the 1950's.

Recent trends in per capita consumption suggest that the demand for peas may have peaked. Per capita consumption of canned peas is down moderately since 1960 and the per capita consumption of frozen has shown no trend.

## Cucumbers for Pickles

The pickle industry has been one of the more rapidly growing processing vegetable enterprises. U.S. pickle production in the late 1960's was 57 percent larger than the 1957-59 average. This rapid advance has encouraged production in a number of States, so that pickle production is much less concentrated than most other processing crops. Michigan has long been the most important producer, but is now being challenged by

North Carolina. Other States which have expanded production markedly include Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, and California. The acreage planted to pickles in both Michigan and Wisconsin has declined, but increased yields have maintained production. These 6 States account for a little more than 60 percent of pickle production. This is a smaller share than during the 1957-59 period, suggesting that other States are also expanding output. Furthermore, the specialization for other processing vegetables has not affected the pickle industry to the same degree. In 1970, the Statistical Reporting Service reported at least some commercial pickle production in 39 States.

## Onions for Fresh Market

Demand for onions about kept pace with population growth during the 1960's. California again asserted its dominance in this major vegetable enterprise. The onion industry is not as highly concentrated as some other important vegetables, probably due to demand for different types which are associated with certain regions. California, Texas, Oregon, New York, and Michigan accounted for about 5 out of every 6 pounds grown in the United States in 1967-69. Idaho has been expanding its output in recent years, and has surpassed Colorado, another important State. Other States are contributing less. Imports from Mexico during the late fall and winter months have increased markedly in recent years but still account for only about 3 percent of the total U.S.

## Cucumbers for pickles: Production in leading States

State	Production			Percent of U.S. total		
	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970	1957-59 average	1967-69 average	1970
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
North Carolina .....	32,563	76,930	69,250	9	14	12
Michigan .....	106,650	99,170	103,950	30	18	18
California .....	30,560	56,566	49,350	9	10	8
Wisconsin .....	45,890	44,730	49,000	13	8	8
Texas .....	12,157	30,460	22,350	3	6	4
Ohio .....	5,533	27,707	46,000	2	5	8
South Carolina .....	2,617	10,800	27,300	1	2	5
Other States .....	116,036	204,763	221,650	33	37	38
Total U.S. ....	352,006	551,126	588,850	100	100	100

supply, however, Mexican competition is keener this season. Onion exports, mostly to Canada, have exceeded total imports, but the gap has been narrowing considerably.

#### Celery and Carrots

Production estimates for carrots are not separated into fresh market and processing. U.S. carrot output moved up 18 percent during the 1960's, roughly matching population growth. Moderate quantities are canned in the Midwest, while a somewhat larger volume is frozen in California. Texas and California contributed almost two-thirds of the total output in 1957-59 with only a moderate downward change since. However, California production moved markedly upward during the 1960's while Texas moved up slightly. Michigan and Wisconsin nearly doubled production volume in the 1960's increasing their shares of total output. Michigan depends more on fresh market outlets while Wisconsin cannery volume has gained markedly. Each of these States accounts for about 7 percent of the U.S. production

All but about a tenth of the U.S. celery production comes from California and Florida. Production was highly concentrated before 1957, and since then Florida has held its share of the market, while California has gained a little larger share. This has come at the expense of summer production in the Great Lake States which compete with California summer output. U.S. production did not change greatly during the 1960's.

#### Some Future Considerations

Many of these changes of the 1960's reflect the trend to a more highly mechanized vegetable industry. The largest gains in production have been made where mechanization has replaced labor, especially for harvest. Processing vegetables have proved more adaptable to mechanization than fresh market items. In the early 1970's the U.S. vegetable industry is well along the road to coordinated large-scale operations. This trend can be expected to continue since hand harvest labor will become even more scarce, and certainly relatively more expensive.

As growers develop sophisticated systems of growing, harvesting, and handling vegetables, they leave fewer production risks to chance. Market oriented firms not previously connected with horticulture have been attracted to the industry. Along with their marketing expertise, these firms also bring experience in handling the kind of labor issues likely to become more important in commercial agriculture.

In the years ahead, crops that still depend on large amounts of extensive hand labor will likely be imported in increasing quantities. The largest gains in fresh vegetable imports from Mexican sources are the vegetables which combine an off-season market with relatively high hand labor harvest costs—tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, eggplant, and melons. Further mechanization of harvest and handling must come if these vegetables are to retain their present importance in domestic production.



Table 5.—Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Reported commercial acreage and production of principal crops, selected seasons, 1969, 1970, and indicated 1971<sup>1</sup>

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage					Production				
			1971					1971		
	1969	1970	Indi- cated	Percent of		1969	1970	Indi- cated	Percent of	
				1969	1970				1969	1970
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	Percent	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	Percent	Percent
Winter <sup>2</sup> .....	246.0	234.8	224.8	91	96	38,631	36,328	38,034	98	105
Spring:										
Asparagus <sup>2</sup>										
spring .....	44.7	42.9	43.0	96	100	1,296	1,330	1,290	100	97
late .....	79.1	77.1	75.4	95	98	1,622	1,451	1,562	96	108
Beans, snap										
early .....	12.7	12.1	11.9	94	98	419	399	393	94	98
mid .....	8.6	8.3	8.4	98	101	226	244	N.A.	---	---
Broccoli <sup>2</sup> 3	11.8	16.3	17.0	144	104	885	1,467	1,530	173	104
Cabbage <sup>2</sup>										
early .....	10.0	8.9	8.8	88	99	1,390	1,528	1,411	102	92
late .....	5.9	5.4	5.7	97	106	805	771	N.A.	---	---
Cantaloups .....	48.1	35.8	31.8	66	89	4,848	3,726	N.A.	---	---
Carrots <sup>2</sup> .....	2.8	2.7	2.6	93	96	504	486	468	93	96
Cauliflower <sup>2</sup> 3	6.6	7.5	6.9	105	92	594	675	621	105	92
Celery <sup>2</sup> .....	8.3	8.2	8.9	107	109	3,520	3,407	3,949	112	116
Corn, sweet <sup>3</sup> .....	44.3	41.9	39.5	89	94	3,413	3,197	3,113	91	97
Cucumbers <sup>3</sup> .....	11.8	11.1	10.8	92	97	1,192	1,097	1,032	87	94
Eggplant <sup>3</sup> .....	1.0	.8	.7	70	88	135	116	109	81	94
Lettuce <sup>3</sup> .....	42.8	47.6	37.8	88	79	8,250	9,214	7,658	93	83
Onions <sup>2</sup>										
early .....	21.0	20.0	18.0	86	90	3,045	3,300	3,240	106	98
late .....	7.9	8.8	7.5	95	85	2,402	2,752	N.A.	---	---
Peppers, green <sup>2</sup> .....	9.6	8.4	7.9	82	94	906	542	748	83	138
Spinach <sup>2</sup> .....	2.4	2.3	2.4	100	104	135	126	119	88	94
Tomatoes <sup>3</sup> .....	23.7	25.9	18.3	77	71	3,200	2,807	2,826	88	101
Watermelons										
late .....	59.1	51.4	50.8	86	99	7,963	7,668	N.A.	---	---
Summer: <sup>4</sup>										
Cabbage <sup>2</sup>										
early .....	4.8	4.8	4.6	96	96	1,031	1,039	N.A.	---	---
late .....	13.3	13.7	14.2	107	104	2,909	2,966	N.A.	---	---
Garlic <sup>2</sup> .....	7.3	5.6	3.7	51	66	876	728	N.A.	---	---
Onions <sup>2</sup>										
early .....	12.6	10.8	11.0	87	102	2,942	2,899	N.A.	---	---
late .....	59.3	61.8	64.2	108	104	19,928	21,458	N.A.	---	---
Watermelons										
early .....	198.8	198.1	205.1	103	104	15,710	16,879	N.A.	---	---
late .....	19.0	20.5	20.0	105	98	2,635	2,981	N.A.	---	---

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Alaska and Hawaii, which are not divided into seasonal groups. <sup>2</sup> Includes processing. <sup>3</sup> Acreage and production for early spring only. <sup>4</sup> 1971 prospective acreage. n.a. - not available.

Vegetables fresh market, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 6.—Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available), indicated periods, 1970 and 1971

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday nearest mid-month					
			1970			1971		
			Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
			<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
<b>New York:</b>								
Beans, snap, green, Harvesters	Florida	Bu. hamper and crt.	8.50	5.00	6.50	14.50	7.25	7.25
Beets, bunched	Texas	1-2/5 bu. crt. 2 doz.	4.00	3.65	4.00	4.25	3.75	4.25
Broccoli, bunched	California	14's crt.	4.25	3.65	5.50	5.50	4.75	4.85
Cabbage, Domestic Round type	Florida	1-3/4 bu. crt.	5.00	4.00	3.25	3.00	3.50	3.35
Carrots:								
Topped, washed	California	48-1 lb. film bag, crt.	4.25	3.75	5.00	---	5.00	---
Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag, mesh master	3.00	2.85	---	---	4.00	5.50
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd., 12's	4.75	5.25	---	5.50	---	4.65
Celery:								
Pascal	California	2-3 doz.	5.25	5.75	5.50	5.00	5.50	4.75
Pascal	Florida	2-4 doz.	4.50	5.00	3.75	3.65	4.25	4.00
Corn, green (yellow)	Florida	5 doz. crt.	4.75	5.00	4.37½	7.00	6.50	6.25
Lettuce, Iceberg	Arizona	2 doz. ctn.	3.90	2.75	5.25	4.25	7.75	3.25
	California	2 doz. ctn.	3.90	2.75	5.25	4.25	7.75	3.25
Onions:								
Yellow, medium	New York	50-lb. sack	4.85	4.75	1.85	1.75	1.75	1.55
Yellow, Granex, lge.	Texas	50-lb. sack	---	4.25	---	---	---	3.50
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu. bskt., lge.	---	---	4.75	---	10.00	19.00
Spinach, Savoy	Texas	Bu. bskt.	2.75	4.50	3.12½	3.25	5.00	3.75
<b>Chicago:</b>								
Beans, snap, green, Harvesters	Florida	Bu. hamper and crt.	8.50	4.75	6.25	15.00	7.25	10.00
Beets, bunched	Texas	Crt. and ctn., 24's	3.35	3.40	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.90
Broccoli	California	Crt. and ctn., 14's	3.65	4.00	5.25	5.50	4.50	5.35
Cabbage, Domestic Round type	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt.	5.00	4.00	3.15	3.35	3.35	3.50
Carrots:								
Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag, mesh master	3.00	3.35	4.60	3.60	4.00	5.75
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd. 12's	4.25	4.15	6.25	6.00	6.25	4.75
Celery:								
Pascal	California	2-3 doz.	5.15	5.50	4.35	4.25	5.00	4.25
Pascal	Florida	2-4 doz.	4.40	4.75	3.40	3.10	4.50	3.75
Corn, green (yellow)	Florida	5 doz. crt.	5.75	5.00	4.65	---	5.75	6.50
Lettuce, Iceberg type	Arizona	2 doz. ctn.	3.35	2.65	4.15	3.50	6.75	3.25
Onions:								
Yellow, Granex, med.	Texas	50-lb. sack	---	4.35	---	---	---	2.75
Yellow, medium	Midwestern	50-lb. sack	4.25	3.10	1.75	1.75	1.60	---
Peppers, green	Florida	bu. bskt., lge.	---	---	5.25	9.50	---	22.00

Weekly summary of terminal market prices, Market News Reports, C&MS, USDA.



Table 7.—Vegetables, frozen: Cold storage holdings and indicated disappearance, January 1 to April 1

Commodity	April 1 stocks			January 1-April 1 net change		
	1969	1970	1971 <sup>1</sup>	1969	1970	1971 <sup>1</sup>
	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>
Asparagus .....	12	7	3	-8	-6	-5
Beans, Lima:						
Fordhook .....	42	48	28	-12	-14	-12
Baby .....	61	61	50	-19	-22	-19
Total .....	103	109	78	-31	-36	-31
Beans, snap:						
Regular cut .....	90	76	59	-38	-44	-40
French style .....	30	24	23	-20	-18	-19
Total .....	120	100	82	-58	-62	-59
Broccoli .....	59	48	57	-13	-3	-7
Brussels sprouts .....	30	24	18	-15	-14	-15
Carrots .....	69	68	78	-25	-30	-27
Cauliflower .....	26	29	21	-14	-17	-19
Corn, sweet:						
Cut .....	N.A.	181	118	N.A.	N.A.	-69
On-cob .....	N.A.	32	29	N.A.	N.A.	-21
Total .....	204	213	147	-87	-109	-90
Peas and carrots .....	17	13	14	-1	-1	-1
Peas, green .....	179	174	141	-98	-104	-98
Spinach .....	38	53	41	-31	+17	+1
Mixed vegetables .....	39	35	33	0	+2	+1
Other vegetables .....	183	188	194	-36	-32	-52
Total vegetables ...	1,079	1,061	907	-417	-395	-402
Potatoes, French fried ..	513	534	615	+116	+94	+66
Other frozen potatoes ..	N.A.	N.A.	79	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Total frozen potatoes	513	534	694	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Grand total .....	1,592	1,595	1,601	-300	-300	-317

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary. n.a. - not available.

Cold Storage Report, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 8.—Canned vegetables: Commercial packs 1969 and 1970 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks 1970 and 1971, United States

Commodity	Pack		Stocks					
	1969	1970	Canners			Whole distributors		
			Date	1970	1971	Date	1970	1971
	<i>1,000 cases 24/303's</i>	<i>1,000 cases 24/303's</i>		<i>1,000 cases 24/303's</i>	<i>1,000 cases 24/303's</i>		<i>1,000 cases 24/303's</i>	<i>1,000 cases 24/303's</i>
Major commodities								
Beans, snap .....	47,339	47,572	Mar. 1	24,685	22,213	Jan. 1	3,695	3,734
Beets <sup>1</sup> .....	10,710	11,008	Jan. 1	9,488	8,857	Jan. 1	1,286	1,151
Corn, Sweet .....	49,387	46,995	Mar. 1	28,171	25,690	Jan. 1	4,205	3,971
Peas, green .....	32,071	28,697	Mar. 1	14,171	11,483	Jan. 1	3,278	3,016
Sauerkraut .....	<sup>2</sup> 12,104	<sup>2</sup> 13,929	Mar. 1	5,312	6,657	Jan. 1	748	709
Total .....	151,611	148,201		81,827	74,900		13,212	12,581
Tomatoes and Products <sup>3</sup>								
Tomatoes .....	32,036	39,017	Jan. 1	N.A.	29,843	Jan. 1	N.A.	3,439
Tomato Juice .....	33,653	35,952	Jan. 1	N.A.	25,995	Jan. 1	N.A.	2,230
Chili sauce .....	1,665	1,505	Jan. 1	N.A.	1,348	Jan. 1	N.A.	N.A.
Total .....	67,354	76,474		N.A.	57,186		N.A.	---
Other commodities								
Beans, lima .....	3,596	2,776	Mar. 1	2,606	1,880	Jan. 1	590	544
Field peas .....	2,946	2,393						
Carrots <sup>1</sup> .....	4,498	4,034	Jan. 1	3,911	3,538	Jan. 1	718	691
Okra <sup>3</sup> .....	843	790						
Pickles .....	<sup>2</sup> 56,347	<sup>2</sup> 65,951						
Pimientos .....	876	627						
Pumpkin and squash .....	5,244	3,973						
Potatoes .....	6,110	N.A.						
Sweetpotatoes .....	12,499	N.A.						
Other greens .....	3,440	3,527						
Vegetables, mixed .....	7,177	6,793						
Total comparable other items .....	84,967	90,864		6,517	5,418		1,308	1,235
Grand total comparable items .....	303,932	315,539		88,344	80,318		14,520	13,816

<sup>1</sup> Pack to January 1. <sup>2</sup> Crop for processing converted to a canned basis by applying an overall conversion factor (pickles 112 and sauerkraut 54 cases equivalent to 1 ton fresh). <sup>3</sup> Pack and stocks date not complete for catsup, paste, sauce and puree. <sup>4</sup> Okra, okra and tomatoes, and okra, corn and tomatoes. n.a. - not available.

Canners' stock and pack data from the National Canners Association, unless otherwise noted. Wholesale distributors' stock from United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 9.—Vegetables, fresh: Average f.o.b. shipping point prices per hundredweight, United States, indicated periods, 1970 and 1971

Commodity	1970		1971		
	February	March	January	February	March 1-15
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Asparagus .....	32.60	20.70	---	41.00	37.60
Beans, snap .....	29.00	16.20	14.90	22.80	21.00
Broccoli .....	15.70	11.70	16.10	16.50	15.10
Cabbage .....	5.67	5.96	3.31	3.44	3.52
Carrots .....	5.40	4.69	5.32	4.85	5.24
Cauliflower .....	14.80	13.10	15.00	15.10	20.60
Celery .....	5.57	4.80	3.65	3.54	4.26
Corn, sweet .....	12.30	9.70	7.10	13.70	11.00
Cucumbers .....	---	---	8.80	---	---
Lettuce .....	3.41	4.26	5.69	4.52	10.00
Onions .....	6.95	6.82	3.42	3.21	3.81
Peppers, green .....	26.00	27.00	13.20	24.00	34.00
Spinach .....	10.80	10.40	14.20	13.80	13.80
Tomatoes .....	11.00	14.20	15.00	16.70	22.80

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.



Table 10.—Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, as of 15th of the month, United States by months, 1960 to date<sup>1</sup>

(1967=100)

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
1960 .....	99	95	87	88	90	74	76	62	61	67	73	77	79
1961 .....	74	74	76	95	83	90	81	65	65	65	76	74	76
1962 .....	94	102	125	109	107	84	73	63	64	66	75	85	87
1963 .....	102	95	82	83	78	88	85	65	62	70	91	94	83
1964 .....	100	103	98	89	83	90	80	76	76	78	101	87	88
1965 .....	80	86	101	106	121	102	85	78	78	84	90	88	92
1966 .....	106	112	102	109	97	99	114	101	91	91	103	99	102
1967 .....	103	99	98	108	103	121	110	86	82	88	100	103	100
1968 .....	118	123	127	132	108	98	94	88	92	91	115	119	109
1969 .....	107	111	109	107	121	99	99	97	94	111	147	124	110
1970 .....	137	135	131	115	152	122	109	94	112	93	107	105	118
1971 <sup>2</sup> .....	118	132	162										

<sup>1</sup> All prices reported on f.o.b. basis. <sup>2</sup> Preliminary.

Table 11.—Potatoes: Acreage and prospective plantings for 1971 season, with comparisons

Seasonal group	Acreage 1965-69 average	Yield per harvested acre average 1965-69	Acreage		
			1970	1971	1971 as percentage of 1970
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Acreage harvested:					
Winter .....	22.3	193	18.8	17.7	94.1
Early spring .....	32.9	143	29.6	29.4	99.3
Late spring .....	97.8	235	81.1	82.6	101.8
Total .....	153.0	---	129.5	129.7	100.2
Prospective plantings:					
Early summer <sup>1</sup> .....	85.9	---	83.4	83.0	99.5
Late summer-fall <sup>2</sup> .....	1,209.0	---	1,238.3	1,240.7	100.2
Total .....	1,294.9	---	1,321.7	1,323.7	100.2
Alaska, late summer-fall	---	---	.69	.69	100.0
Total .....	1,294.9	---	1,322.4	1,324.4	100.2

<sup>1</sup> Intended acreage for 1971 as of February 1. <sup>2</sup> Intended acreage for 1971 as of March 1. Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 12.—Potatoes, winter and spring: Acreage, yield per acre and production, average 1965-69, 1970 and indicated 1971

Seasonal group	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average 1965-69	1970	Indicated 1971	Average 1965-69	1970	Indicated 1971	Average 1965-69	1970	Indicated 1971
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>
Winter .....	22.3	18.8	17.7	193	191	175	4.3	3.6	3.1
Early spring .....	32.9	29.6	29.4	143	161	150	4.7	4.8	4.4
Late spring .....	97.8	81.1	82.6	235	260	---	23.0	21.1	---

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 13.—Sweetpotatoes: Plantings, average 1965-69, 1970 and indicated 1971

Area	Acreage			
	Average 1965-69	1970	Indicated 1971 <sup>1</sup>	1971 per centage of 1970
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Central Atlantic <sup>2</sup> . . . .	23.3	13.5	11.2	83
Lower Atlantic <sup>3</sup> . . . .	33.8	34.9	36.8	105
Central <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	89.7	89.6	69.2	77
California . . . . .	7.9	7.8	7.8	100
United States . . . . .	154.7	145.8	125.0	85.7

<sup>1</sup> Indicated as of March 1. <sup>2</sup> New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. <sup>3</sup> North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. <sup>4</sup> Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.



Table 14.—Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, at terminal markets, and to growers; per hundredweight, indicated periods, 1970 and 1971

Item	Week ended						
	1970			1971			
	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Apr. 18	Jan. 16	Feb. 13	Mar. 13	Apr. 17
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
<b>F.o.b. shipping points:</b>							
New stock							
Florida, Dade County							
U.S. No. 1, Size A, Round Reds <sup>1</sup>	---	6.00	5.90	---	---	4.50	6.30
Old stock							
Colorado, San Luis Valley							
Red McClures <sup>2</sup>	3.62	3.88	4.00	2.70	2.75	2.75	2.68
Idaho, Idaho Falls							
Russets <sup>3</sup>	3.88	4.18	4.48	2.78	2.46	2.68	3.06
Maine, Aroostook County							
U.S. No. 1, Size A, Round Whites <sup>1 4</sup>	2.52	3.02	2.76	2.02	2.00	1.96	2.00
New York, Upstate							
Katahdin <sup>1</sup>	3.92	3.78	4.16	3.02	2.90	2.86	3.00
Michigan							
Round Whites <sup>1</sup>	3.56	3.66	---	2.58	2.76	2.76	---
	Tuesday nearest mid-month						
	1970			1971			
	Feb. 17	Mar. 17	Apr. 14	Jan. 19	Feb. 16	Mar. 16	Apr. 13
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
<b>Terminal markets:</b>							
New York:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds <sup>1 5</sup>	---	9.00	7.80	---	8.00	6.70	8.00
Old stock							
Long Island, various Round Whites <sup>1 5</sup>	3.80	4.30	4.00	3.60	3.50	---	---
Maine, Katahdin <sup>1 4 5</sup>	4.00	4.50	4.20	3.60	3.50	3.50	3.50
Idaho, Russets <sup>1 5</sup>	6.70	6.80	7.00	6.70	6.30	6.20	6.00
Chicago:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds <sup>1 5 6</sup>	8.20	8.50	7.80	---	8.00	6.90	7.70
Old stock							
Idaho, Russets <sup>5 6</sup>	6.10	6.25	6.35	5.65	5.30	5.25	5.20
Minnesota-North Dakota							
Round Reds <sup>5 6</sup>	4.10	4.40	4.35	3.90	3.60	3.65	3.40
	Month						
	1970			1971			
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
U.S. price received by growers	2.34	2.59	2.70	1.97	1.93	1.00	N.A.
U.S. average parity price	3.17	3.17	3.19	3.25	3.28	3.28	N.A.

<sup>1</sup> 50 pound price doubled. <sup>2</sup> 2-inch up, washed. <sup>3</sup> 10-oz. minimum. <sup>4</sup> 2-inch minimum. <sup>5</sup> U.S. No. 1, Size A. <sup>6</sup> Street sales. n.a. - not available.

F.o.b. prices are the simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Terminal market prices are for Tuesday of each week as reported by Market News representatives of the Fruit and Vegetable Division of C&MS.

Table 15.—Sweetpotatoes: F.o.b. prices at Louisiana and California points and terminal market prices at New York and Chicago for stocks of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1, when available), indicated periods, 1970 and 1971

Location and variety	Unit	Week ended						
		1970			1971			
		Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Apr. 18	Jan. 16	Feb. 13	Mar. 13	Apr. 17
F.o.b. shipping points S.W. Louisiana points Porto Rico type, U.S. No. 1, cured California, Porto Rico type	50 pound crate 40 pound carton	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
		4.40	4.35	4.33	4.50	4.62	4.72	4.88
		4.65	4.65	4.65	5.80	--	5.60	5.80
		Tuesday nearest mid-month						
		1970			1971			
		Feb. 17	Mar. 17	Apr. 14	Jan. 19	Feb. 16	Mar. 16	Apr. 13
Terminal markets New York: New Jersey, orange Jersey type North Carolina, Porto Rico type Chicago: Louisiana, Porto Rico type, cured	Bushel basket 50 pound carton	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
		2.75	3.10	---	---	4.75	5.00	5.00
	50 pound crate	4.25	4.15	4.50	4.75	4.75	4.65	4.85
		5.30	5.30	5.30	5.35	5.45	5.75	5.75

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Market prices are for Tuesday of each week as

reported by Market News representatives of the Fruit and Vegetable Division of C&MS.

Table 16.—Average price per hundredweight received by farmers for sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas, United States, indicated periods, 1970 and 1971

Commodity	1970		1971		
	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 15
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Sweetpotatoes .....	5.88	5.91	6.10	6.54	6.60
Beans, dry edible .....	7.69	7.59	9.15	9.92	10.20
Peas, dry field .....	4.27	4.27	4.23	4.20	4.20

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.



Table 17.—Beans, dry edible: Prospective plantings for 1971 season, with comparisons<sup>1</sup>

Group of States	Acreage planted			
	Average 1965-69	1970	Indicated 1971 <sup>2</sup>	1971 as percentage of 1970
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
New York .....	94	86	76	88
Michigan .....	638	655	635	97
Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington ....	261	275	270	98
Minnesota and North Dakota ...	31	44	43	98
Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah .....	247	292	281	96
California .....	207	174	164	94
United States .....	1,478	1,526	1,469	96.3

<sup>1</sup> Excludes beans grown for garden seed. <sup>2</sup> Indications as of March 1.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 18.—Peas, dry field: Prospective plantings for 1971 season, with comparisons<sup>1</sup>

State	Acreage planted			
	Average 1965-69	1970	Indicated 1971 <sup>2</sup>	1971 as percentage of 1970
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Minnesota .....	9	9	9	100
North Dakota ....	5	3	3	100
Idaho .....	104	124	113	91
Washington .....	130	164	138	84
Oregon .....	11	16	14	88
United States ...	259	316	277	87.7

<sup>1</sup> In principal commercial producing States. <sup>2</sup> Indications as of March 1.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

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